

use, the composition and the size of groups which they feel are most efficacious. They make it clear that they are concerned with depth therapy in groups and not in superficial, supportive treatment. They are obviously enthusiastic about group psychotherapy and feel it has many benefits which individual therapy does not have. They cover the benefits and advantages very well.

In the following chapters they elaborate on what they have covered in the first chapter, that is the structure of groups, the process of group therapy, the differences between individual and group therapy, the techniques used, the use of alternate sessions with the leader absent, a highly controversial technique but one which they favor. In these chapters there is a great deal of repetition, with particular stress on the benefits of group therapy as the authors practice it. At times their assertions amount to a polemic against group therapists who do not agree with their methods and many pages are devoted to criticisms of analysts whom they regard as "too authoritarian" and unwilling to permit patients freedom of action and thought. There is throughout the book very little evidence given for their assertions. More clinical data from actual group sessions, in my opinion, would have carried more conviction of their theses than pages of criticism of those who, they assume, differ from them.

They give many advantages that groups consisting of heterogeneous patients have over those with homogeneous patients and inveigh against homogeneity in groups with great vigor. In line with this they strongly decry the tendency to conformity among Americans. In much of the book the tone is a polemical one rather than an objective, scientific one. They are strong advocates of psychoanalysis in groups as they describe it, of group therapy alone and not concomitant with individual therapy, of diversity as opposed to sameness in the composition of groups and the use of alternate group sessions without the therapist present.

This is not a primer in group psychotherapy, nor does it deal with groups in general or group dynamics in the broad sense. These subjects are touched upon and references from the literature on group dynamics are cited. The authors seem to feel that group dynamics should be de-emphasized as not playing a significant role in group psychotherapy. This book is not recommended for the general practitioner and would probably be of interest only to psychiatrists and particularly those with experience in and a predilection for group psychotherapy.

ROBERTA CRUTCHER, M.D.

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**CLASSICS OF CARDIOLOGY** (former title: *Cardiac Classics*)—A Collection of Classic Works on the Heart and Circulation with Comprehensive Biographic Accounts of the Authors—Frederick A. Willius, M.D., M.S. in Med., Former Chief, Section of Cardiology, Professor Emeritus of Medicine, The Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, The Graduate School, The University of Minnesota; and Thomas E. Keys, A.B., M.A., Librarian, The Mayo Clinic; Assistant Professor of History of Medicine, Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, The Graduate School, The University of Minnesota. Dover Publications Inc., 180 Varick Street, New York 14, N. Y., 1961. 2 Volumes, \$2.00 each Volume. (Paperback Edition) Volume I, 399 pages; Volume II, 459 pages.

This is a collection of classic works on the heart and circulation, formerly published in hard cover under the title *Cardiac Classics*. It is a two-volume paperback for a very reasonable price, published by the Dover Publications Inc. of New York. These two volumes present fifty-two contributions by fifty-one masters of the past preceded by

short but comprehensive biographic accounts of the authors. The parent book of *Cardiac Classics* has been out of print for years and all students are indebted to the publishers for reprinting the book in this inexpensive edition.

The writings of those great men, who first made the clinical observations which led to the present practice of medicine, have excited all students of medicine and the current volume presents passages from the original writings of a whole host of old masters which will be of great interest to the physician of today. The reader will obtain great pleasure from reading the precise words by which Harvey described the circulation of the blood; Hales obtained the blood pressure in animals; Heberden described angina pectoris; Auenbrugger developed the importance of percussion of the chest; Withering accounted for his use of the fox glove; and many others. The clarity of the writing and the precision of thought of many of the men who made important discoveries is indeed impressive and will be a great stimulus to the student investigator of today.

Portraits of each of the great men are included and the biographies are extremely pertinent and present each man's work in perspective.

These two volumes can be most highly recommended to all students, physicians, and research workers as a compilation of the epic-making contributions of the great men that came before us. The original writings, translations, and frontispieces are extremely well done, and we concur with the authors that the rather complete reproduction of the works is of great value and permits the reader more fully to appreciate and understand the personality and philosophy of the authors.

MAURICE SOKOLOW, M.D.

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**GYNECOLOGY**—Langdon Parsons, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Boston University School of Medicine; Chief of Gynecology, Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals; and Sheldon C. Sommers, M.D., Pathologist, Scripps Memorial Hospital. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1962. 1250 pages, \$20.00.

Approximately 2400 years ago the son of an Athenian midwife departed from the traditional methods of education and taught his students by a process of systematic questioning. Since that time the Socratic method has been used by inspired teachers to stimulate their pupils. In this volume Dr. Parsons, a gynecologist, and Dr. Sommers, a pathologist, combine their lifelong experience in one of the Boston University teaching hospitals, and following in the footsteps of Socrates they depart from the traditional methods of textbook writing and instead ask a series of thought provoking questions, which they then in turn answer. This has produced a text which is a skillful blending of logic, scientific facts, statistical data and clinical observation. The authors also depart from tradition, by a unique sequence of presentation relating the gynecological disorders considered in the various periods of life. As Shakespeare has so aptly noted, "And one man in his time plays many parts, his acts being seven ages." The authors divide their book into seven parts, and in each part consider the gynecological problems peculiar to one of the seven decades of life. The ample section on gynecological problems in infancy and childhood is especially welcome, for the authors discuss many aspects of this important subject of pediatric gynecology, which is not usually considered in the ordinary textbook of gynecology, or at best only glossed over in a few words. Chapters on examination of the newborn female, and young female children, as well as chapters on congenital abnormalities, intersex problems and sexual precocity are of particular value. Also of merit is a lucid chapter on the

sex chromatin variants, which includes recent developments in this rapidly changing discipline. Under gynecologic problems of puberty and adolescence chapters on normal endocrinology and steroid metabolism, the various aspects of menstrual dysfunction, hirsutism, and pelvic pain are presented. The discussion is written from a comprehensive patho-physiologic point of view. In the section on gynecological problems of young women, sterility, pelvic infections and certain disorders of pregnancy are adequately presented. Of particular interest is an excellent chapter on sexual physiology which serves as a background for a discussion of marital counseling and the management of sexual problems, another area which is rarely adequately treated in gynecological texts. Other valuable chapters include those on reproductive tract neoplasms, the management of the menopause, and of problems in geriatric gynecology. A generous documentation of the facts presented is given with carefully selected references placed at the ends of the chapters, and these references are conveniently subdivided under subject headings. The index of 54 pages has obviously been carefully compiled and cross-referenced, and adds considerably to the utility of the text.

Some readers may regret the absence of the usual textbook section on operations. The authors, however, are unapologetic about this omission, as they state this is not a surgical atlas and their decision has much to commend it. In relation to the overall excellence of this full presentation, the small points of dispute melt into insignificance, as there is much to commend and little to criticize. Due to the arrangement of diseases into various decades there is of necessity some duplication, as in each section chapters are devoted to the problems of bleeding in that period of life. This of course necessitates some jumping around in order to follow certain topics. In some chapters there is also seemingly undue repetition, as in the chapter on carcinoma of the cervix where the fact that undetected lymph node metastasis in State I carcinoma of the cervix is seen frequently is mentioned six times.

Despite the fact that this marks at least the tenth textbook of gynecology to be published in the English language in the past three years, we agree with Dr. Miegs' introductory comment that this is truly one of the great books of recent years, and in spite of the authors' prefatory remarks that they will promise never to do this sort of thing again, we predict that this most elegant and useful text is likely to reappear again in successive editions, to which we may look forward. This important book can be warmly recommended to all students, practitioners and gynecologic specialists.

LAWRENCE D. LONGO, M.D.

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**TEXTBOOK OF ENDOCRINOLOGY—Third Edition, Illustrated**—Edited by Robert H. Williams, M.D., Chief, Endocrinology and Metabolism Division, and Physician-in-Chief, University Hospital; Executive Officer and Professor of Medicine, University of Washington Medical School, Seattle, Washington. With contributions by twenty-one authorities. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1962. 1204 pages, \$21.00.

A vast amount of rapidly accumulating information indicates that hormones influence every body cell and that endocrine function is a factor in almost every major disease. The tremendous progress in this field during the past few years made obsolete the Second Edition of William's *Textbook of Endocrinology*, published in 1955. The Third Edition is, therefore, essentially a new book, with an expansion of its contents from 776 to 1004 pages. More than 70 per cent has been written by new authors and much of the remainder has been rewritten. New authors have written the

chapters on the pituitary, testes, ovaries, pancreas, neuro-endocrinology, and laboratory tests, and there are new co-authors for the chapters on the thyroid and parathyroids. There are eight new chapters, with almost entirely new content or approaches. One chapter, "Disorders in Sex Differentiation," summarizes the information in this interesting field. Similarly, "Genetics and Endocrinology" covers this area. Two chapters summarize the significant effects of hormones upon protein metabolism and upon water and electrolyte metabolism. Recent progress has made it desirable to include individual chapters on "The Pineal Gland," "Hormones and Cancer," and "Hypoglycemia."

The chapter dealing with obesity in previous editions has been extensively enlarged to deal with Lipid Metabolism and Lipopathies, in recognition of the prominent role of the endocrines in this field. Consideration is given to basic aspects of various phases of lipid metabolism and to disorders in lipid metabolism (lipopathies), including atherosclerosis, obesity, xanthomatosis, and sphingolipidosis.

One chapter deals with endocrine problems in children, and two short chapters deal individually with the general principles and laws of endocrinology and general principles in the diagnosis and treatment of endocrinopathies. In this last chapter, commonly used endocrine products are considered. Several chapters discuss pseudoendocrine disorders and the use of hormones (glucosteroids, sex steroids) for treating such nonendocrine disorders as cancer, collagen diseases, and allergic disorders.

The reviewer considers this an outstanding text. It covers an enormous amount of material. Despite the general excellence it is sometimes difficult to isolate individual endocrine problems in the contents of the book. The use of more tables is suggested, e.g., tables of the different tests of adrenal function listing their normal values, physiological and pathological variations and significance.

William's *Textbook of Endocrinology* is recommended highly to internists, general practitioners, and students with an interest in endocrinology.

EDGAR WAYBURN, M.D.

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**SKIN SURGERY—Second Edition, Thoroughly Revised**—Ervin Epstein, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Dermatology, University of California Medical School; Formerly Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine (Dermatology), Stanford University Medical School; Chief of Dermatology and Syphilology at Highland-Alameda County Hospital. Lea & Febiger, Washington Square, Philadelphia 6, Pa., 1962. 339 pages, 472 illustrations on 175 figures and a colored plate, \$10.00.

Dr. Epstein called attention in the preface to the first edition of this book, which was published in 1956, that over twenty per cent of patients seen in the practice of dermatology can be treated by some surgical method. He noted, also, the lack of adequate training in surgical methods in many of the resident programs for dermatologists. A great many operations on the skin are done by those in general practice or in other medical specialties. Except, perhaps, in cold steel surgery, the training of this large group in the various modalities of skin surgery also leaves much to be desired.

This book represents an attempt to present for all those concerned the indications and techniques for all of the various dermatological surgical procedures.

Dr. Epstein has, himself, written seven of the twenty-one chapters in this 336-page book and collaborated in one more. The other thirteen chapters have been contributed by others (fifteen in all) whom he chose because of their training and experience in the topics presented.